

**Name:**

Danielle Long

Country:

England

Company:

Berry Norwich

Job Title:

Quality Compliance Co-ordinator

Tell us a bit about yourself...

I currently work as a Compliance Co-ordinator at Berry Norwich, and have been there since 2017. Prior to working in compliance, my role was within the R&D team as a packaging technologist.

My spare time is usually spent at soft play or visiting the zoo, as I have very recently had a little girl and she loves climbing and animals – but pre-covid (and pre-baby) my spare time was used either travelling or searching for our next trip. At present, I can't wait for travel restrictions to be lifted completely, so we can take our little girl on her first trip away.

Why did you join the BRCGS Professional Programme?

I joined the BRCGS Professional Programme to strengthen my knowledge and understanding of Product Safety Management, and to enable me to be in a position where I am able to share my knowledge with other members of the team here at Berry Norwich. This ultimately demonstrates to our customers that our skills are internationally recognised.

What value do you personally feel the BRCGS Professional certification brings to you?

Of course, it is great to be able to have this certification on my CV, as it shows employers that I have been able to demonstrate these skills in various settings – not just at the company I work for. However, for me, the most important achievement is that I've gone from joining the company as a complete BRCGS novice, gaining a little knowledge around the factory when seeing it in action, all the way to being part of the compliance team responsible for the successful transition to BRCGS Packaging Issue 6. The BRCGS Professional certification gave me the confidence to be an active member of the team, and put forward plenty of ideas for a smooth transition.

How has the training helped improve operations at your site/company?

The area that has seen the largest improvement has to be our HARM system. Thanks to the training, we have been able to apply new skills, and the difference between our old and new system is substantial. It is safe to say the new HARM system is effective, and is now reviewed properly at the appropriate times.

What did you most enjoy about the training?

The part I enjoyed most about the training were the assessments! (I know how that sounds!) The reason I enjoyed the assessments so much was because, although I found them challenging, I knew I had all the tools and skills I needed to complete them and pass. This is reflective of the training combined with the hands-on approach I was taking in the workplace.

What are you most looking forward to within the Professional community?

One of the best parts of being a BRCGS Professional is becoming part of a larger community of Professionals who share the same ambitions. I am looking forward to being able to join networking events, to meet new people, and to understand how other companies maintain their accreditation.

How do you plan to keep your skills up to date?

Using the PPP system, I plan to complete activities such as internal mentoring, work-based learning, e-learning modules and webinars.

What are your career ambitions/aims?

My career ambitions have changed in the last few months. Prior to having a baby, my ambition was simply to be "successful" in my career. But now, my ambitions have slightly more meaning, I aim to be a role model for other females, particularly mums, by showing it's possible to juggle work life and home life in a healthy way. To me, that means being in a management role, meeting KPI's, and maintaining our five IMS accreditations, whilst knowing that when I'm not at work, the management system carries on working, so I can switch off and enjoy time with my family.

Long term, I would love to become a Management Systems Consultant. One of my strengths is problem solving, and it would be great to wake up every morning knowing I am making a difference to people's workplaces, sharing everything I have learnt over the years in industry.